

FECN11 CWIS 041800

THIRTY DAY FORECAST FOR THE GREAT LAKES FOR APRIL ISSUED BY THE
NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE ON 4 APRIL 2006.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED BULLETIN WILL BE ISSUED ON 18 APRIL 2006.

Lake Superior

Temperatures were near to above normal during the last two weeks of March and the first few days of April. The current ice situation is still about a week to 10 days earlier than normal in terms of break-up.

Forecast ice conditions from April 4th to 15th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the first part of April.

1. Thunder Bay – The consolidated thick lake ice in the extreme eastern part of Thunder Bay will fracture by the end of the first week or during the second week of April. The loose thick lake ice in the bay will melt during the first part of April. By the middle of the month only a few strips of thick lake ice will remain.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Consolidated thick and medium lake ice will begin to fracture during the second week of April.
3. From Nipigon Bay to Duluth – Mainly open water except for a few isolated strips of thick lake ice from the bays.
4. Southern Lake Superior including the Keweenaw Peninsula – Mostly open water conditions will develop during the second week of April except around the Apostle Islands where a few isolated patches of medium lake ice could remain.
5. Whitefish Bay – The thin and medium lake ice in the bay will melt during the period. The consolidated ice in the small bays will fracture during the second week. By the middle of the month mainly open water conditions will prevail except for isolated strips of medium lake ice in the small bays.
6. From Whitefish Bay northwards to Michipicoten Bay and westward to Nipigon Bay – Open water to ice free.
7. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to 30th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the last two weeks of April.

1. Thunder Bay – Becoming mainly open water during the third week.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Consolidated thick lake ice will melt so that by the end of the month patches of thick lake ice will be present with some areas of open water.
3. From Nipigon Bay to Duluth – Open water to ice free.
4. Southern Lake Superior including the Keweenaw Peninsula – Open water to ice free.
5. Whitefish Bay – Becoming ice free.
6. From Whitefish Bay northwards to Michipicoten Bay and westward to Nipigon Bay – Ice free.
7. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Ice free.

Lake Michigan

Temperatures were above normal over the entire region. The current ice situation is about one week earlier than normal in terms of break-up.

Forecast ice conditions from April 4th to 15th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the first part of April.

1. Green Bay – Mainly open water conditions will develop during the first week of April in Green Bay. The consolidated ice in the Little and Big Bay de Noc will fracture in the first week of April so that by the middle of April mainly open water will prevail everywhere.
2. Northeastern Lake Michigan – The strips of ice in the area will melt during the first week so that by the middle of April mainly open water to ice free conditions will prevail.
3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to 30th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the last two weeks of April.

1. Green Bay – Open water becoming ice free.
2. Northern Lake Michigan – Ice free.
3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – Ice free.

Lake Huron and Georgian Bay

Temperatures were above normal during the last part of March and the first few days of April. The current ice situation is two to three weeks earlier than normal in terms of break-up.

Forecast ice conditions from April 4th to 15th.

Temperatures will average above normal over the first part of April.

1. North Channel – The consolidated ice in the eastern and western part of the channel will continue to fracture so that by the middle of the month both areas will be fractured completely. The central part of the channel will continue to clear as the ice melt. By the middle of the month, the ice concentration will be low with rotten medium and thick lake ice.
2. St Mary's River – Most of the river is open water with some areas of consolidated thick lake ice. By the middle of the month the entire river will be open water.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron – Mainly open water except for some ice drifting southward from the North Channel.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw – Mainly open water.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – Mainly open water.
6. Saginaw Bay – Mainly open.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – Patches of thin and medium lake ice near the south-eastern shore and along the Bruce Peninsula will melt during the

first week or early in the second week of April. By mid-month the entire area will be open water to ice free.

8. Georgian Bay – The mobile and consolidated thick and medium lake ice along the north-eastern shore will continue to melt so that by the middle of April mainly open water conditions will prevail with some isolated patches of ice. Elsewhere in Georgian Bay mainly open water to ice free by mid-month.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron– Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to 30th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the last half of April.

1. North Channel – The ice in the North Channel will completely melt by the end of the third week or early in the fourth. By the end of April, the channel will be mainly open water to ice free.
2. St Mary's River – Ice free.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron – Ice free.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw – Ice free.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – Ice free.
6. Saginaw Bay – Ice free.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – Ice free.
8. Georgian Bay – Open water along the northeast shore during the third week becoming ice free by the end of the month.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay – Ice free.

Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair

Temperatures were near normal during the last two weeks of March and the first few days of April.

Forecast ice conditions from April 4th to 15th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the first part of April.

1. Lake St Clair – Ice free.
2. Lake Erie – Open water in the extreme eastern part of the lake becoming ice free over the next few days. Elsewhere ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to 30th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the last two weeks of April.

1. Lake St Clair – Ice free
2. Lake Erie – Ice free.

Lake Ontario

Temperatures were near to above normal during the last half of March and the first few days of April.

Forecast ice conditions from April 4th to 15th.

Temperatures will be above normal for the first half of April.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – Open water becoming ice free.
2. Bay of Quinte – Open water.
3. St Lawrence River – Open water becoming ice free by mid-month.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to 30th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the last two weeks of April.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – Ice free.
2. Bay of Quinte – Ice free.
3. St Lawrence River – Ice free.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Ice free.

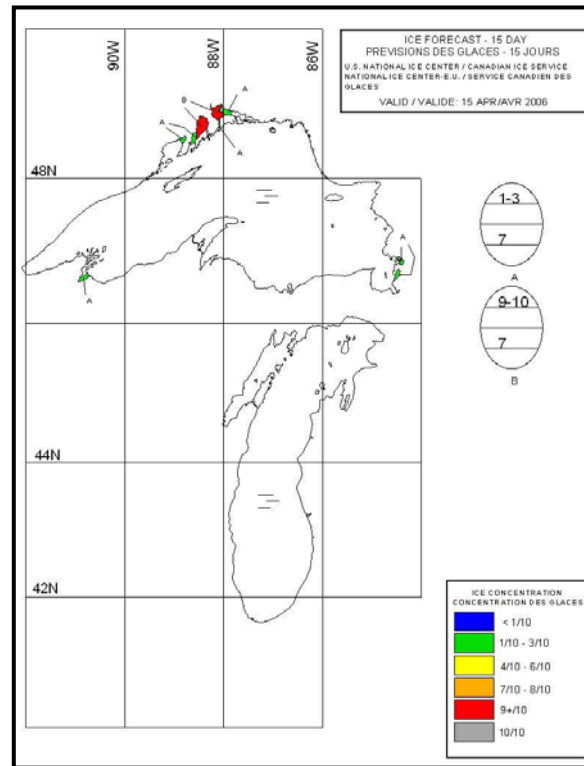


Figure 1: Ice forecast, Western Great Lakes – 15 April 2006.

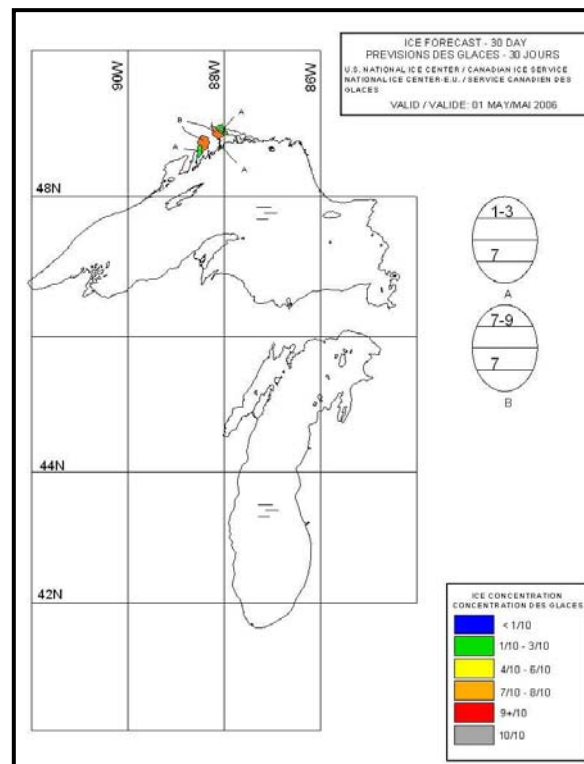


Figure 2: Ice forecast, Western Great Lakes – 1 May 2006.

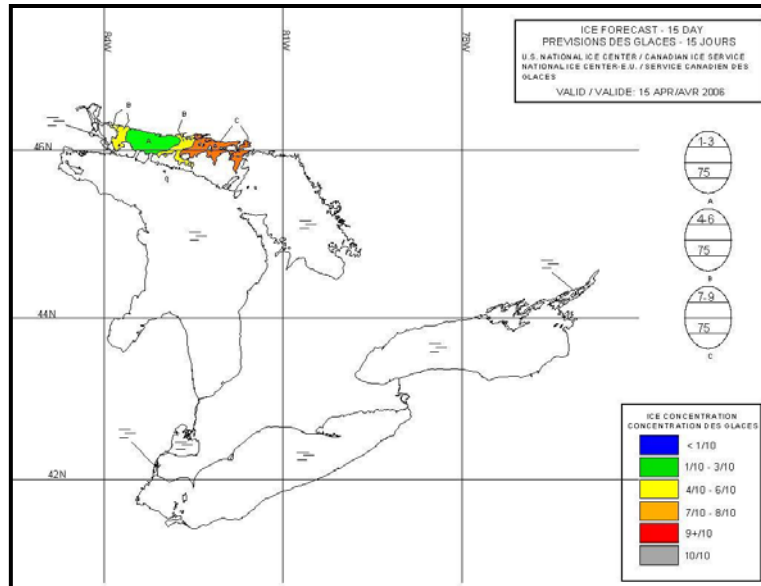


Figure 3: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes – 15 April 2006.

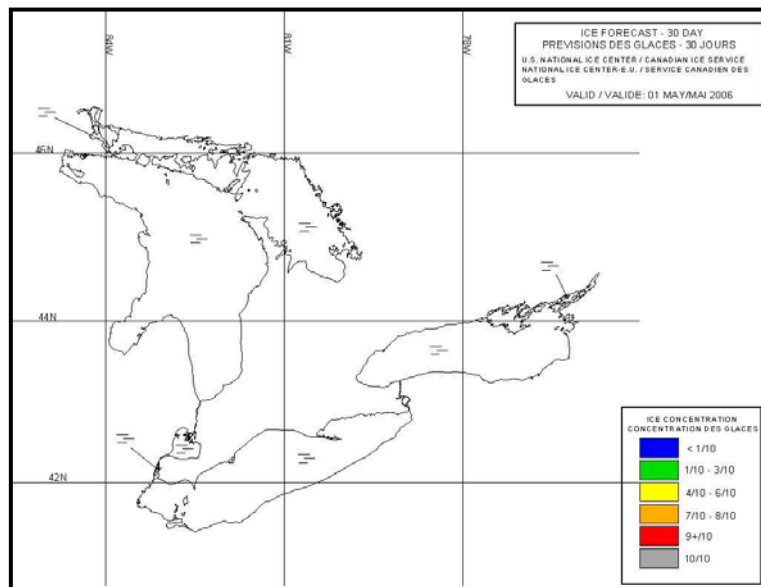


Figure 4: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes – 1 May 2006.

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